

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EA/K:DAO'DONOHUE:CHG

APPROVED BY EA - MR HABIB

S/S-O-MR. HOGANSON

S- MR. COVEY

IO - MR BUFFUM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USUN NY

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E.O. 11652,XGDS-1

TAGS:PFOR, UNGA, KS

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER KIM'S CALL ON SECRETARY

1. ROK FONMIN KIM, ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR HAHM CALLED ON SECRETARY NOVEMBER 22. HABIB AND BUFFUM ALSO ATTENDED.

2. MOST OF THE DISCUSSION DEALT WITH FUTURE UNGA STRATEGY. SECRETARY STATED THAT WE AND ROKG SHOULD NOT FEEL UNDER PRESSURE TO TAKE ANY IMMEDIATE ACTIONS. HE POINTED OUT THAT BEST APPROACH WOULD BE TO DEMONSTRATE AIR OF CONFIDENCE OVER NEXT FEW MONTHS AND NOT ACT AS IF UNGA ACTION ON KOREA WAS EITHER A DEFEAT FOR US OR IMPORTANT IN TERMS OF OUR INTERESTS.

2. SECRETARY FURTHER INDICATED THAT HABIB, DURING HIS POST-PEKING VISIT TO SEOUL, WOULD CONTINUE OUR DISCUSSIONS ON FUTURE UN POLICY.

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3. KIM AGREED THAT WE SHOULD APPROACH KOREAN QUESTION CAREFULLY AND STUDY VARIOUS ALTERNATIVES. HE QUERIED SECRETARY ON WHETHER THERE ANY POSSIBILITY OF USG WORKING OUT DEAL WITH CHINESE LEADERS ON A "CEASE FIRE" IN THE UN NEXT YEAR ON THE KOREAN QUESTION. SECRETARY TOLD KIM

THAT CHINESE ATTITUDE ON SUCH A QUESTION WOULD BE DETERMINED BY CONDITIONS NEXT SUMMER, NOT AT THIS EARLY STAGE. FURTHER HE INDICATED THAT FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW THE LESS FRANTIC WE APPEAR IN OUR APPROACHES, THE BETTER THE PROSPECTS.

4. KIM MENTIONED ROKG DESIRE TO TAKE PUBLIC INITIATIVE IN NOVEMBER-DECEMBER PERIOD, MAKING SPECIFIC PROPOSAL, INCLUDING DATE AND PLACE, FOR A FOUR-POWER CONFERENCE TO IMPLEMENT OUR UNGA PROPOSAL. SECRETARY SAID WE WOULD DISCUSS THIS FURTHER WITH ROKG WHILE STRESSING THAT WE DO NOT WANT ANY STATEMENT BEFORE OR DURING PEKING VISIT. FURTHER NOTED IT WOULD BE BETTER TO CONSIDER TIMING OF ANY PUBLIC STATEMENT FOR EARLY NEXT YEAR, NOT IN THE IMMEDIATE AFTERMATH OF THIS YEAR'S UNGA.

5. KIM ALSO THREW OUT POSSIBILITY OF PROPOSING A SOUTH-NORTH FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING TO HIGHLIGHT ROKG READINESS TO RESUME DIALOGUE. SECRETARY SAID THAT SUCH A STATEMENT COULD BE USEFUL AT SOME LATER POINT. HE INDICATED THAT, ON BALANCE, IT WOULD BE MUCH BETTER FOR ROKG TO CONSIDER PROPOSING A SOUTH-NORTH FONMIN MEETING WHILE LEAVING TO THE US, THE QUESTION OF A PUBLIC CALL FOR FOUR-POWER MEETING.

6. SECRETARY ALSO REAFFIRMED OUR CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR ROK UN MEMBERSHIP.

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